

March 25, 1975

SENATOR KENNEDY: Mr. Speaker and fellow members, I'd like to turn this over to Senator Dickinson. He has amendments up there that will replace the Committee amendments. I think it is Senator George's amendment that will replace the Committee amendments so I will turn it back to those...Senator George.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator George.

SENATOR GEORGE: Mr. Speaker, could we have the amendment read, please. No, not the Committee amendment, my amendment. Could I, in the meantime, explain the amendment, Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER: I am sorry. I did not hear Senator Kennedy's comments. What were your comments in regard to your Committee amendments?

SENATOR KENNEDY: I would like to turn the microphone over to Senator George rather than adopt the Committee amendments. Senator George has a replacement for the Committee amendments.

SPEAKER: You may proceed, Senator George.

SENATOR GEORGE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The amendment, and I move the adoption of the amendment, is a very simple one. So far, the metropolitan utilities district may contract to sell water to surrounding villages and towns but the new water districts quite often nowadays are run through the new Natural Resources Districts. Of course, when this bill was passed there were no Natural Resources Districts so what this amendment does, it adds to the old language and adds Natural Resources Districts and this is not a theoretical bill. This is absolutely necessary because we do have at least one case where a town that would like to contract with MUD needs this bill before they can do it because the Natural Resources District is the one who wants the new water district. Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT WHELAN PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body. This is a little unusual, I guess, two Senators explaining one amendment but the amendment also includes the original intent of the bill which is my bill and I will explain this portion of the amendment. As most of you here will recall, two years ago we passed a bill that required all municipalities to fluoridate their water. It, also, provided that if, by referendum vote, these municipalities did not want fluoridated water that they would not be forced to do so. Now by virtue of the organization of a water district through the Papio Natural Resources District, the village of Fort Calhoun, Nebraska plus some rural area are in the process of organizing a water district. They will be purchasing their water from the metropolitan utilities district of Omaha which has nothing available except fluoridated water. Now in the event that four or five years down the road, a citizen of this village would bring to a referendum vote of the people and they would happen to vote that they did not want fluoridated water, there would be no source of supply. They would simply have their supply shut off. So the bill provides that in these instances a municipality